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VOL. 2, NO. 7

APRIL 1896.

THE DIXIE PHILATELIST.

Official Organ of the Southern Philatelic Association.

25 Cents a Year.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTING

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Auction Sales . . .

Our first sale for the year 1896 will be held about February 1, and will contain a splendid line of rarities of all kinds, including an almost absolutely complete collection of the stamps of Europe up to 1869, with the exception of Switzerland. The sale also contains a fine lot of United States stamps, both used and unused, and some of the greatest rarities in United States envelopes.

Our second sale will be held late in February, and will contain a magnificent collection of entire United States envelopes, as well as some other material which will be interesting to all classes of collectors. Catalogues will be mailed long in advance of the sales. Collectors who have not been in the habit of receiving these catalogues from us will oblige us by sending their name to be entered on the list.

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DIXIE PHILATELIST.

Vol. 2. APRIL. No. 7.

THE STAMPS OF MONTENEGRO.

The seeming everlasting Turkish question has again occupied the attention of the whole world recently, when it appeared for a time as though the Turks would really be driven out of Europe at last. However, the powers made haste slowly, and from present indications the Sultan will remain in Constantinople for some time yet. The story of the Ottoman Empire in Europe for the last five hundred years, its rapid rise, its almost successful attempts to subjugate Austria; its fierce wars with the leading countries of Europe, and its gradual decline, makes one of the most interesting narratives for the historical student.

The fruitless struggles of the Christian states of the Balkans against Turkish encroachment form one of the heroic pictures of modern history, and the regaining of their independence and gradual growth, has occupied much of the time of European diplomats.

Among these states, Montenegro has the distinction of never having been completely under the Mohammedan rule, although it was for a time nominally under the sovereignty of the Sublime Porte. This country of the "Black Mountains," with an area of 3,630 square miles, and a population of 236,000, was a part of the great Servian Empire in the Middle Ages. After that fell into the hands of the Turks, the Montenegrins continued the struggle, the head of their government being called a Prince. In 1516, the then reigning prince resigned in favor of the Vladika, or archbishop of the Greek Church, in whose person the religious, civil and military functions were combined until 1851. When Danilo I. became Vladika, he renounced the nominal allegiance to Turkey and dropped the title of Vladika upon the advice of Emperor Nicholas I. of Russia and assumed that of Prince. Un-

der the constitution adopted in 1852, and altered in 1855 and 1879, the executive power is vested in the Prince, and the legislative in a State Council of Eight, one-half named by the Prince and one-half elected by the male inhabitants who bear arms or have borne them. The sentiment is probably the more pro-Russian in this country than in any of the other Balkan principalities.

After this somewhat lengthy introduction, for which I crave pardon if it offends as being rather alien to philately, let us take a look at Montenegro from a philatelic standpoint. The first stamps were issued in 1874, design, head of Nicholas I. surrounded by a wreath, on white ground, frame in color with Russian inscription in white on outside, with ornaments in corners. Currency, 100 novitch, 1 florin —40 cents United States money. The values are

1 n.....Lavender (1894)	2 n.....Yellow
2 n.....Yellow Green (1894)	3 n.....Green
5 n.....Red	7 n.....Violet
7 n.....Rose (1892)	10 n.....Blue
10 n.....Violet (1894)	15 n.....Brown
20 n.....Pale Red Brown (1894)	25 n.....Slate Violet
25 n.....Violet Brown (1892)	30 n.....Lilac Brown (1894)
30 n.....Ultramarine (1894)	1 fl.....Deep Green (1894)
2 fl.....Deep Brown (1894)	

All of the 1874 issue exist Perf. 10, 10½, 11½, 12, 12½, 13 and compound, making quite an array for the perforation collector. The 1892 issue exists Perf. 12½, 13 and compound, and the 1894 Perf. 10½ and 11. Shades also exist.

On July 25th, 1893, the regular issue was surcharged in Russian characters with "1493" and "1893" at sides. This was done to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the introduction of printing in Montenegro. In these days when everything in the speculative or even unnecessary is looked upon with suspicion by collectors, the necessity of this action may be questioned. However, this is a first offense, if it is such at all, and it may have been only a commemorative issue, such as the U. S. Columbian, where the idea of speculation did not enter at all. The values surcharged are the 2 n., 3 n., 5 n., 7 n., violet and 7 n. rose, 10 n. blue, 15 n., 25 n., violet brown with black surcharge, and the 10 n. blue and 25 n. violet brown with red surcharge. All values come with the surcharge inverted, and the 2, 3 and 5 n. have an error in the date, "1494," instead of "1493."

A set of unpaid letter stamps, somewhat similar to that of the United States, was issued in 1894. The values are:

1 n	Red	2 n	Yellow Green
3 n	Orange	5 n	Violet
10 n	Violet	20 n	Ultramarine
30 n	Blue Green	50 n	Gray Green

A return receipt stamp is chronicled in the December American Journal of Philately. Portrait of Nicholas I.

10 n.....Sky blue and red.

Three envelopes were issued in 1893; the 5 n. on pale buff and the others on white.

5 n.....red.
7 n.....violet.
10 n.....blue.

These also exist with Jubilee surcharge. Four wrappers appeared in the same year:

2 n.....yellow on blue.
3 n.....green on blue.
2 n.....red on yellow.
3 n.....black on yellow.

All the stamps of this country, with exception of the perforation varieties, shades, inverted surcharges, error in surcharge and the return receipt stamp, consisting of forty-two varieties, are valued in Scott's 55th at $8.42 unused. The highest priced is the 2 fl. adhesive, $1.50.

VERITAS.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

BY DEGARMO.

There is a wild, vague rumor existing in philatelic circles that the color of the current two-cent is to be changed in consequence of the recent unearthing of a counterfeit of that stamp in Chicago. Upon inquiry at the post office department nothing can be found to substantiate the rumor. It was found out, however, that all of the large postoffices in the country have been furnished with a specimen of the counterfeit.

Washington philatelists were delighted to learn that a lady residing at Louisville had searched among her old correspondence, induced thereto by the reading of the "find" in St. Louis stamps, and brought to light a Buchanan local, which was to be brought to Washington, but their hearts felt weary and sad when it was discovered that this rarity

had been brought here and disposed of for a very small sum to some unknown party.

Many of us were surprised to find out that by the 56th the 2-cent State had advanced 100 per cent. and it is quoted at $5.00. It is not surprising however, for this reason: There were but 41,800 of the 2-cent State issued, and it is only lately that dealers have become aware of their scarcity. The 1-cent State is now quoted at a dollar. Of these there were only 31,800 issued. Now what may we reasonably expect to see in the future of this stamp? Simply this, before the year is out the 1-cent State will be quoted at nearly the same, if not the same, figures as the 2-cent. It is impossible to secure one here for less than $1.50, and at an auction sale of recent date, it brought $2.00 which seems to bear out the prediction of the rarity of this stamp.

Another thing that collectors, and indeed, the philatelic public in general, know very little about, is the fact that there will be no more complete proof sets issued. When the Goverment decided to print her own stamps, the dies heretofore used by the various companies, passed in to her possession, and for lack of room in the Bureau building, wherein they might be kept, they were ordered destroyed. Positive information has been received from an official that a great many of them had been broken up and put into the melting pot. Proof sets are having their day with us, and we are anxious to obtain them in all shapes and forms, and from the above information every one seems to be trying to locate and lay hold of a proof set before the price goes up. At a recent auction sale a set of proofs (not complete) on cardboard brought over forty dollars, so there seems to be a little future in these also.

Very few collectors outside of the city are aware that we have quite a fine philatelic society, the Washington Stamp Club, composed of sixty or more members, who have their own club room, and hold regular meetings once every two weeks. They subscribe for all the leading periodicals, and have an auction sale regularly every month, which gives all the members the opportunity of realizing something on their duplicates. These sales prove to be quite successful and

often times the proceeds for the evening amount to a good many dollars.

The 50 cent, $1 and $2 Columbians are the only ones of the set that are commanding a value over that of face, all the others being now obtainable at the city postoffice. The price placed on the $1 is a true one, as a great many of them were used for postage purposes in the transaction of business, so the number of uncancelled specimens in existence are but few. The $2 were bought up by a syndicate who have formed a corner and who have thousands of them in their possession, hence the prevailing price which will continue to mount gradually.

The high figure placed upon the 30 and 50 cent claret dues has been commented on by many, and the new catalogue has seemed to become cognizant that they are not nearly so scarce as supposed and have reduced their price accordingly. The reason that so much was asked for them in 1895 was that the trade expected that the claret dues would be immediately superceded by the new issue, but they seem to have been mistaken, for contrary to all expectations it was found that the postoffice has a considerable number of the clarets on hand and had determined to work them off. The price of $1.50 and $2.00 quoted in the new catalogue is exceedingly high, as good specimens are plenty and may easily be obtained for 75 cents and $1.00.

SYSTEMATIC COLLECTING—DENMARK.

M. C. SPEARS.

Denmark is a very desirable country for the beginner to give his attention to. The issues can be easily filled at a very low cost. We are very prone to ignore these apparently insignificant countries, whereas these simple stamps go a great way toward making a complete collection, while a collection full of rarities would not be the object of much admiration if it did not contain these so-called Continentals.

Perhaps the beginner already has from a dozen to a score of Denmark stamps, but though straggling specimens look common, complete sets make a good appearance, and bring in good returns from the small outlay.

The first stamp issued (1851) is one of the rarest ones, costing $1.75. The other two of the issue cost 5c. The five stamps of the '53 issue costs but 19c. The 1864 issue perforated, consisting of five stamps can be had for 28c. The six stamps of the 1870 issue cost but 75c and the entire ten stamps issued in '74 can be bought for only 16c.

The three stamps of the '82 issue is catalogued at $1.03, the 10c carmine costing $1.00. In '85 these stamps were issued with larger figures in the corners, costing 3c for the set.

The entire 38 adhesives catalogue at $4.88, or omitting two specimens, 36 adhesives, can be purchased for only $2.16, not allowing for discount. The two sets of Officials, issued in 1871 and '75 catalogue at 52c. The four envelopes issued in '65 are rather costly, being worth $2.50. The two envelopes of '69 catalogue at 55c used, The '71-'75 set costs 30c, but the "4" o' blue catalogues at $30.

All the wrappers of Denmark can be had for 74c. Well filled pages of Denmark stamps will be the source of much pride and satisfaction, so it will profit you more to turn your attention toward completing these issues than aimlessly scattering specimens through your album.

NEWS AND NOTES.

C. E. BOSTWICK.

During the reign of the great Roman Emperor, Augustus Cæsar, before the time of Christ, the inhabitants of Italy were obliged to furnish wagons, horses and men for the carrying of the government mail, news and laws to every part of the vast empire.

A project is now on foot for the formation of an Indiana Philatelic Society. It is to be hoped that it will be a success.

The latest issue of the "Seneca" comes out with red colored cover and greatly increased amount of reading matter.

The Philadelphia Stamp News has made its appearance. Its first issue contains a considerable amount of advertising, but there should be more reading matter.

The Michigan Philatelist is one of our prompt magazines. It comes out on the first and is very seldom late.

Well, the 56th is out. The "Hints for Collectors" and the alphabetically arranged list of countries are new and excellent projections. A great many new varieties of United States are catalogued. Taken altogether it makes a very creditable appearance, although the colors of some of the covers are very sickening indeed.

Meekeel has the honor of issuing the first daily stamp paper, the initial number having been presented January 1. Long may it live!

Why don't we collect the envelopes now in use by the various department? They are legitimate postal emissions, and are far more eligible to our albums than plate numbers or Seebecks. Can some one tell me why they are deserted by the mass of collectors.

Did you notice the rise in U. S. Revenues in the 56th. They are seeking their real value. "I told you so."

We can't get up in the morning without rising,
We can't do business without advertising.

Moral—Try THE DIXIE.

DOTS AND DASHES.

By H. I. WATTS.

A pamphlet on the "Varieties of the 1894, 2 cents" is in course of preparation. It will list all the varieties of paper, gum and color.

There is still a surprising number of Columbian stamps in the postoffices of this state. Letters and packages are daily received with postage paid with these stamps. While one can still obtain most of the Columbians at some offices, it is very seldom that they are to be procured with plate numbers attached.

American Philatelists should see that notices of the meetings of their societies, etc., appear in their local papers. By so doing much information will be given to the public concerning philately.

A collector recently found what he supposed to be a 3c Columbian stamp on green paper. When removed from the original envelope, however, it proved to be the ordinary paper with the surfaced discolored by contact with an imperfectly clean plate.

The Dixie Philatelist.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

SUBSCRIPTION:

U. S., Canada and Mexico . . . 25 cents per year
Foreign Countries . . . . . 40 cents per year

J. M. Chappell, Jr. . . . . Editor
Russell & Chappell . . . . . Publishers

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Space.	1 Mo.	3 Mo.	6 Mo.	1 Yr.
1 inch	50	1 25	2 25	4 00
2 inches	90	2 25	4 00	7 50
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1 column	2 75	7 00	12 50	22 50
1 page	5 00	12 50	22 50	40 00

Unused stamps will be accepted for amounts under $1. Larger amounts should be sent by registered letter or money order.

Copy should reach us by the 10th of the month to insure insertion. To change standing ads. copy must be in by the fifth.

We will exchange one or two copies with philatelic publications.

Address all mail matter to Box F, Macon, Miss.

Entered at the postoffice in Macon, Miss., as second-class matter.

APRIL 1896.

Once again we come before you. For several weeks we have been awaiting the pleasure of the post office department. On March 9 we were handed our certificate of entry at second-class rates.

We will in future try to be more prompt and hope to merit the patronage of all. We are here to stay and your subscription will be accepted with pleasure.

Mr. H. A. Ruess of San Antonio, Texas, known all over the world for his Famous Continentals, has, in connection with two other parties, purchased three large opal mines in Mexico. He will continue his stamp business the same as heretofore. C. C. Rogers has charge of his New York agency.

We have received price-list No. 34 from the Standard Stamp Co., St. Louis, Mo. It is a rather large list to be issued several times during the year, but the Standard knows its business and every stamp collector should have one. Free for the asking.

We publish in another column the results of the election of the Southern Philatelic Association. The newly elected officers have gone to work, and the prospects for the S. P. A. are very bright indeed.

Members of the S. P. A. who receive their paper with this notice marked will please remit their dues to January 1st, 1897, 30 cents. Membership cards will be promptly sent.

Merrill's System of Protection against Philatelic Frauds has always sold for 25 cents, but its originator, A. B. Merrill, of Everett, Mass., is now preparing a special edition for free distribution among the first 2000 who are willing to send him three two-cent stamps and a request for a copy. Mr. Merrill will alternate the pages with those of approved advertisements, and as soon as sufficient number of the

latter are received, to pay for producing this edition, the work of printing and mailing will be commenced. The book will be 3x5 inches in size and contain from 80 to 100 pages, and being so constantly in use, will prove an excellent medium for advertisers. Collectors and dealers who desire instruction in this much-talked-about and highly praised system, which has saved users many dollars in the purchase, sale and exchange of stamps, are strongly advised to file requests for copies, as above, without delay, as it is expected that this edition will be exhausted before our next issue.

The Texas Philatelic Directory is announced to appear April 1st. Mr. E. W. Heusinger is the publisher. Price, 15c. 113 City St., San Antonio, Texas.

Mr. A. M. Rareshide of Houston, Texas, is a candidate for Exchange Superintendent P. S. of A. Mr. Rareshide has had considerable experience and he will make a model Exchange Superintendent. He has our best wishes for success.

Stamp dealers should avail themselves of our low rates—large circulation and extremely low adv. rates. A trial ad. solicited.

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ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 1st, 1894.

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Vice-President—D. E. Hazen, Thonotosassa, Florida.

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Trustees—H. A. Reuss, E. W. Heusinger, C. T. Fincham, San Antonio, Texas.

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Result of Election Closing Feb'y 29, 1896.

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H. A. Reuss	1
Secretary—B. Russell	1
Librarian—J. P. Simpson	1
Convention Seat, San Antonio	1
Birmingham	1

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SECRETARY'S REPORT.

RESIGNATIONS.

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Ed. B. Huguenin,
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C. L. Elliott.

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357. George Griffith, Armourdale, Kans.

The above will please forward 30c., the amount of their dues, to the secretary at once, and membership cards will be promptly forwarded, which entitles you to all the privileges of the association.

APPLICATIONS.

Jno H Dunnewind, Box 524, Grand Rapids Mich., Ref, J M Chappell, Jr, E Pilie, Jr.

N Mackey, Jr, 313 E Houston St, San Antonio, Tex. Ref J M Chappell, Jr, H A Reuss.

Roy Springer, Prairie City, Iowa, Ref A M Rareshide, J M Chappell. Jr.

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Eben S Martin, Box 493, Minneapolis, Minn.

Ellsworth Lentz, Box 6, Baker City, Ore. Refs J C. Chappell and J M Chappell, Jr.

Harry L Coombs, 99 St. James St., St. John N. B. Canada, Ref. J M Chappell, Jr., J C Chappell.

TO THE MEMBERS OF S. P. A.—

Having been elected Auction Manager of this society I would be pleased to receive lots for sale, particularly good stamps, and not only those poor ones which you cannot dispose of yourself. I hope that all of the members will send in bids on every sale and take sufficient interest in the department to help me make it a success.

Very truly yours,

R. L. HEUSTIS, Auc. Mgr.,
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my approval sheet department, would like agents with first-class references to sell from my sheets at 50, 33⅓ and 25 per cent. discount. I also send out good selections to responsible parties. Send me your want list.

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U. S. Stamps at .....30 per cent discount
Brit. Col's & Rarities 25 to 40 " "
Hawaii at..... 50 " " "
Good Foreign .....50 to 60 " "
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Revenues.....25 to 50 per cent discount
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A 1 reference required. Send your want list.

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2415 Champa St., Denver, Colo.

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15 F. S. Confederate Bills, 15 varieties U. S. Locals (reprints) 7 varieties unused Switzerland and 1000 very best hinges. The entire lot for only 25c. List free.

CHAS. C. ROGERS,
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10 " at	6c,	2 var.	60
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Venezuela "	10	80
Ecquador "	08	60
Peru "	06	46
Chili "	05	40
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